THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI R. VELU): (a) to (d) The 11th Five Year Plan for Railways is under finalization in consultation with the Planning Commission.

Railway land

556. SHRI C. RAMACHANDRAIAH:
SHRI DHARAM PAL SABHARWAL:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Railways has more than four lakh hectare of surplus land;

(b) whether it is also a fact that Railways has proposed to use this surplus land for the purpose of commercial farming;

(c) if so, the complete details in this regard; and

(d) whether Railways is planning to issue a policy document for leasing out railway land for logistic parks, warehousing and retailing and if so, the details in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI R. VELU): (a) No, Sir. Out of total land holding of 4.31 lakh hectare, Railways has only 0.45 lakh hectare vacant land, which is required by Railways for its own uses.

(b) and (c) Railways do not have any surplus land. However, till such time the vacant land is needed by Railways for its operational use, the same is utilized for various short-term uses including commercial plantation. Under the policy, JV partner is allowed to undertake plantation on 50:50 revenue sharing basis. While planter is required to bear all the cost of plantation, Railways contribution in turn would be land only.

(d) Yes, Sir. A policy document for leasing out spare-able railway land for the development of multi modal logistic parks/rail side warehouses/ stockyards and terminals for handling container trains by private investors is under consideration.